



# River Forest Youth Soccer

## Zero Tolerance Law

All coaches, all assistant coaches, all players, and all spectators shall support the referee before, during, and after the game. Failure to do so undermines the referee's authority and could create a hostile environment for players, the referee, coaches, assistant coaches, and all spectators, including participants in other matches. Consequently, RFYS has adopted the following rule:

**NO ONE IS TO ADDRESS THE REFEREE DURING THE GAME!**

**Coaches/Assistant Coaches/Spectators (where applicable) - Allowable Exceptions:**

During the game:

1. Responding to a referee initiating a communication
2. Making substitutions
3. Pointing out emergencies or safety issues

At half time or at the end of the game:

1. Asking a referee to explain a rule(s) in a polite and positive way
2. Giving polite and friendly feedback to a referee

**ABSOLUTELY NO SARCASM, NO HARASSMENT, AND NO INTIMIDATION!**

**Penalties:**

1st Minor Infraction - Referee should ignore

2nd Minor Infraction - Referee should issue a verbal warning

3rd Minor Infraction - Referee should issue a caution

4th Minor Infraction - Referee should issue an ejection

**1st Serious Infraction** - Referee should issue a caution or ejection depending on the seriousness of infraction per FIFA.

**2nd Serious Infraction** - Referee should issue an ejection.

**Accumulation of two cautions in one match is equivalent to an ejection.**

The FIFA Laws of the Game govern communications among players and referees.

Anyone responsible for the verbal or physical assault or intimidation of a referee prior to, during, or following a game will be subject to review by the Board of Directors.